

What is Claimed Is:

- 1           1.     A vessel for filtering oil, comprising:  
2                   a frame defining at least one compartment;  
3                   a rack removeably positioned within said compartment; and  
4                   at least one candle housing removeably positioned in said rack.
- 1           2.     The vessel of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of filter elements suspended  
2 in said candle housing.
- 1           3.     The vessel of claim 2, wherein said candle housing includes a mounting plate and  
2 defines a chamber above said mounting plate.
- 1           4.     The vessel of claim 3, wherein each said filter element includes a permeable core  
2 that is threadably engaged to said mounting plate and is in fluid communication with said  
3 chamber.
- 1           5.     The vessel of claim 1, wherein said rack comprises a hollow tube.
- 1           6.     The vessel of claim 1, wherein said chamber is in fluid communication with said  
2 rack when said candle housing is positioned in said rack.
- 1           7.     A vessel for filtering oil, comprising:  
2                   a frame defining at least one compartment having a female connector mounted  
3 therein;  
4                   an inlet pipe for injecting dirty oil into said compartment;  
5                   a tubular rack having a male connector, wherein said rack removeably positioned  
6 in said compartment such that said male connector engages said female connector when said rack  
7 is positioned within said compartment;

8 at least one candle housing including a plurality of filter elements removeably  
9 positioned in said rack and in fluid communication with said rack; and

10 an outlet pipe interconnected to said female connector for removing clean oil.

1 8. The vessel of claim 7, further comprising:

2 an air purge line interconnected to said inlet pipe;

3 a sludge purge line positioned in the bottom of said compartment; and

4 an overflow line positioned in the top of said compartment.

1 9. The vessel of claim 8, further comprising:

2 a door for enclosing said compartment when said rack is positioned in said  
3 compartment; and

4 a handle attached to said door.

1 10. The vessel of claim 7, wherein said candle housing includes a mounting plate for  
2 threadably engaging said filter elements.

1 11. The vessel of claim 10, wherein said candle housing defines a chamber above said  
2 mounting plate that is in fluid communication with said filter elements.

1 12. The vessel of claim 11, wherein said chamber is interconnected to and in fluid  
2 communication with said tubular rack.

1 13. The vessel of claim 12, wherein said filter elements comprise a permeable core  
2 surrounded by compressed filter media.

1 14. The vessel of claim 13, wherein said core is threadably engaged to said mounting  
2 plate.

1           15.    The vessel of claim 14, further comprising a header interconnected to said inlet  
2 pipe for distributing dirty oil around said compartment.

1           16.    The vessel of claim 7, wherein said compartment includes a sloped floor pan.

1           17.    The vessel of claim 7, wherein said frame defines a plurality of said  
2 compartments, each said compartment including a pair of said tubular racks.